

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of :
Kaoru YOKOTA et al. : **Mail Stop: PCT**
Serial No. NEW : Attorney Docket No. 2006_0662A
Filed May 12, 2006 :

DIGITAL CAMERA SYSTEM WITH MEANS
FOR RESTRICTING IMAGE ACQUISITION
[Corresponding to PCT/JP2004/017327
Filed November 16, 2004]

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE
FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of the references listed on attached form PTO-1449 and any additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A legible copy of each reference listed on the Form PTO-1449 is enclosed, except a copy is not provided for:

- ☒ each U.S. Patent and U.S. Patent application publication;
- ☐ each reference previously cited in the international application PCT/_____; and/or
- ☐ each reference previously cited in prior parent application Serial No. _____.

1a. ☒ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application, **or**

before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits or the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of an RCE,

and thus no certification and/or fee is required.

1b. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted

after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:

(1) ☐ the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, **or**

(2) ☐ the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

1c. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and

the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

2. It is hereby certified

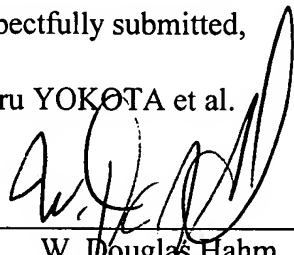
- a. ☐ that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or
- b. ☐ that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.

3. ☐ Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.
4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is made to:
- a. ☐ a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,
 - b. ☒ a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith,
 - c. ☒ the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page 2,
 - d. ☒ the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,
 - e. ☒ the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the reference:
WO 2004/080064 corresponds to US 2005/0286883; and
JP 2001-320702 corresponds to US 6,853,750 and 6,993,188.
5. ☒ A foreign patent office search report citing one or more of the references is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Kaoru YOKOTA et al.

By


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May 12, 2006

FORM PTO 1449 (modified)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICELIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S)
(Use several sheets if necessary)

Date Submitted to PTO: May 12, 2006

ATTY DOCKET NO.
2006_0662ASERIAL NO.
NEW

10/578896

APPLICANT
Kaoru YOKOTA et al.FILING DATE
May 12, 2006

GROUP

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| *EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
|----------------------|----|--------------------|-------|-----------------|-------|----------|-------------------------------|
| | AA | 2002/0039479 A1 | 04/02 | Watanabe et al. | | | |
| | AB | 6,397,334 | 05/02 | Chainer et al. | | | |
| | AC | 2005/0286883 A1 | 12/05 | Abe et al. | | | |
| | AD | 6,853,750 | 02/05 | Aoki | | | |
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| | AI | | | | | | |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION YES NO | |
|--|----|--------------------|-------|---------|-------|----------|-----------------------|--|
| | AJ | 2004/080064 A1 | 09/04 | WO | | | | |
| | AK | 1 076 316 A2 | 02/01 | EP | | | | |
| | AL | 2001-320702 | 11/01 | JP | | | Abstract | |
| | AM | | | | | | | |
| | AN | | | | | | | |

OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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| | AO | |
| | AP | |
| | AQ | |

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED